

ABSTRACTAn Interactive Audio System

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An interactive audio system comprises an audio source terminal 11 and a audio playback terminal 13 connected to each another by a wireless data link 14. The playback terminal 13, in this case, is in the form of a mobile telephone receiver. The source terminal 11 comprises a source computer 5 provided at some fixed network core.

10 Connected to the playback terminal 13 is an audio transducer 15, and a user control device 17. The wireless data link 14 is established over a network connection which is set-up using an existing cellular telecommunications network (as are used in mobile telephony systems). In use, the source terminal 11 acts as a device by which the playback terminal 13 can access particular services. The presentation of available services is not performed using visual data displayed at the remote terminal, but instead, 15 audible sound is used to present services. The services are represented by audio components which are transmitted from the audio source terminal 11 over the data link 14. A user is able to select an audio component as a focus component by using the user control device 17. The focus component is transmitted at a higher bit-rate than the non 20 focus components so as to maintain the required bandwidth of the data link at a suitable level.

Figure 3.

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